

# KAWARTHA WOODTURNERS GUILD

## Safe Work Procedure - WOOD LATHE

**DO NOT** use this machine unless you have been instructed in its safe use and operation and have been given permission

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Safety glasses or face shield must be worn at all times.

Long and loose hair must be contained.

Hearing protection may be required.

Sturdy footwear must be worn at all times.

Close fitting/protective clothing or a smock must be worn.

Rings, jewellery or gloves should not be worn.

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Locate and ensure you are familiar with all machine operations and controls.
- ✓ Ensure all guards are fitted, secure and functional. Do not operate if guards are missing or faulty.
- ✓ Check workspaces and walkways to ensure no slip/trip or electrical hazards are present.
- ✓ Ensure the workpiece has been suitably prepared for the lathe operation.
- ✓ Exercise extra caution using stock with cracks, splits, bark pockets, knots irregular shapes or protuberances.
- ✓ Workpiece must be securely fastened to face plate (with stout #10 or #12 screws), chuck or between centres.
- ✓ Adjust speed to suit the diameter of the work and turning operation.
- ✓ Rotate the workpiece by hand to check clearance between tool rest and bed.
- ✓ Ensure the cutting tools are sharp, clean and in good condition.
- ✓ Ensure there is good lighting.
- ✓ Check that locking devices on the tailstock and tool rest are tight before operating the lathe.
- ✓ Ensure the safety shield is in proper position for all Guild demonstrations.

### OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Only one person may operate this machine at any one time.
- ✓ Stay out of the "red zone" or "firing zone".
- ✓ Don't overreach, keep proper footing and balance.
- ✓ Always check the speed of the lathe before turning it on.
- ✓ Before making adjustments, switch off and bring the machine to a complete standstill.
- ✓ Keep the tool rest adjusted close to the work and at the correct height.
- ✓ Hold tools securely on the toolrest, holding the tool in a controlled but comfortable manner.
- ✓ Always contact the tool rest with the tool before contacting the wood.
- ✓ Adjust speed to suit the diameter of the work and turning operation.
- ✓ Remove chuck keys, adjusting wrenches and knockout bars before turning on the lathe.
- ✓ Stop the lathe and remove all tool rests before sanding, finishing or polishing operations.
- ✓ Note that when running a lathe in reverse, it is possible for a chuck or faceplate to unscrew unless it is securely tightened or locked on the lathe spindle.

### ENDING OPERATIONS AND CLEANING UP

- ✓ Switch off the machine when work completed.
- ✓ Return all chisels and other tools to racks.
- ✓ Remove all tool-rests and place in rack.
- ✓ Leave the machine in a safe, clean and tidy state.

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND INJURIES

- Eye injuries from flying debris or defective timber.
- Hair/clothing getting caught in moving machine parts.
- Airborne dust.
- Skin irritation from some types of wood.
- Tripping and electrical hazards from improperly sized or placed extension cords.

### DON'T

- ✗ Do not use faulty equipment. Immediately report suspect equipment.
- ✗ Do not operate lathe without all guards in place.
- ✗ Never leave the lathe running unattended.
- ✗ Never adjust the tool rest until turning off the lathe and allowing it to come to a complete stop.
- ✗ Never force a dull tool.
- ✗ Don't use a tool for a purpose that it was not designed or intended for.
- ✗ Do not use dry wall or deck screws to fasten wood to a face plate.

This SWP does not necessarily cover all possible hazards associated with this equipment and should be used in conjunction with other references. It is designed as a guide and as a reminder to users prior to equipment use.